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JLH

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of  
LANG et al.

Serial No. 09/852,616

Art Unit: 3617

Filed: May 11, 2001

Examiner: A. Vasudeva

For: LOW-DRAG HYDRODYNAMIC SURFACES

**RESPONSE**

To the Director of the Patent and Trademark Office

Sir:

In response to the Advisory Action dated July 25, 2003,  
kindly reconsider and allow all rejected claims for the reasons  
as previously stated.

Kindly reconsider and allow claim 145. Claim 145  
distinguishes from Wipper, inter alia, by pointing out forming a  
gas cavity (singular) and a cavity closure (singular) in a cavity  
closure region and providing a series of substantially  
symmetrical saw tooth-like shapes on the surface in the cavity  
closure region.

In contrast, Wipper has multiple grooves or channels (column  
7, line 37) that make multiple cavities. The grooves are tapered  
toward collection holes 34 in the center and at the top of the  
groove (column 7, line 62) (Figure 3C, Figure 3 right). The  
compressed air is collected in slots 102 which extend across the  
width of the channels (column 7, line 66) (Figure 3 left).

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